

May 10, 2013

News Release 13-045

Inv. No. 731-TA-1206 (P)

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USITC VOTES TO CONTINUE CASE ON DIFFUSION-ANNEALED, NICKEL-PLATED FLAT-ROLLED STEEL PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN

The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) today determined that there is a reasonable indication that a U.S. industry is materially injured by reason of imports of diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated flat-rolled steel products from Japan that are allegedly sold in the United States at less than fair value.

Chairman Irving A. Williamson and Commissioners Shara L. Aranoff, Dean A. Pinkert, David S. Johanson, and Meredith M. Broadbent voted in the affirmative. Commissioner Daniel R. Pearson voted in the negative.

As a result of the Commission's affirmative determination, the U.S. Department of Commerce will continue to conduct its investigation on imports of these products, with its preliminary antidumping duty determination due on or about September 3, 2013.

The Commission's public report *Diffusion-Annealed, Nickel-Plated Flat-Rolled Steel Products from Japan* (Investigation No. 731-TA-1206 (Preliminary), USITC Publication 4395, May 2013) will contain the views of the Commission and information developed during the investigation.

Copies of the report are expected to be available after June 10, 2013, by emailing pubrequest@usitc.gov, calling 202-205-2000, or writing to the Office of the Secretary, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Requests may also be faxed to 202-205-2104.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Office of Industries
Washington, DC 20436

FACTUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Diffusion-Annealed, Nickel-Plated Flat-Rolled Steel Products from Japan
Investigation No. 731-TA-1206 (Preliminary)

Product Description: Diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated steel is a flat-rolled steel product, plated or coated with nickel or with a nickel-based alloy and subsequently annealed. Annealing after nickel-plating causes the formation of a thin layer of iron-nickel alloy between the steel substrate and the nickel coating, which prevents the nickel coating from flaking or separating from the substrate during fabrication operations. The principal application for diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated steel is for the fabrication of cans and end caps of alkaline and lithium batteries. Diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated steel is also used for the manufacture of fuel, power-steering, and other automotive fluid lines.

Status of Proceedings:

1. Type of investigations: Preliminary antidumping.
2. Petitioner: Thomas Steel Strip Corporation, Warren, Ohio.
3. Preliminary investigation instituted by the USITC: March 27, 2013.
4. Commission's conference: April 17, 2013.
5. USITC vote: May 10, 2013.
6. USITC determinations due: May 13, 2013.
7. USITC views due: May 20, 2013.

U.S. Industry:

1. Number of producers in 2012: One.
2. Location of producer's plant: Ohio.
3. Employment of production and related workers in 2012: (1)
4. Apparent U.S. consumption in 2012: (1)
5. Ratio of the value of total U.S. imports to total U.S. consumption in 2012: (1)

U.S. Imports:

1. From the subject country during 2012: (1)
2. From other countries during 2012: (1)
3. Sources during 2012: Japan, Germany, and Korea.

(1) Withheld to avoid disclosure of business proprietary information.

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